

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 /074 W

----- 015544

R 080930Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9329

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN, UR

SUBJ: SAYEM'S COMMITMENT TO PAST TREATY OBLIGATIONS

1. WE NOTE THAT WIRELESS FILE JANUARY 7 CARRIES TEXT OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR ARTICLE BY MOHAN RAM, DATED NEW DELHI, REGARDING THE SOVIET UNION'S MISGIVINGS OVER BDG'S FOREIGN POLICY THRUST. AFTER NOTING THAT BANGLADESH HAS A "SPECIAL TREATY RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIA'S SIMILAR TO THAT BETWEEN INDIA AND THE USSR, RAM WRITES THAT PRESIDENT SAYEM HAS "NOT REAFFIRMED DACCA'S COMMITMENTS TO PAST TREATIES OR INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS" AS HAD MOSHTAQUE AHMED FOLLOWING HIS TAKEOVER IN AUGUST.

2. RAM REPORT IS IN ERROR. PRESIDENT SAYEM UNDERTOOK SUCH A COMMITMENT IN HIS SPEECH TO THE NATION THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 6. RADIO BANGLADESH'S ENGLISH NEWS SUMMARY OF THE SPEECH, BROADCAST IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARD AND TAPED BY THE EMBASSY, CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE PRESIDENT SAYEM FIRMLY REITERATED THAT OUR GOVERNMENT WILL FULLY HONOR

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ALL BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS AND COMMITMENTS.

EN QUOTE. BECUASE OF EVENTS OF NOVEMBER 7, TEXT OF
PRESIDENT SAYEM'S SPEECH WAS NEVER PUBLISHED AND CONTENTS
RECEIVED LITTLE ATTENTION, EITHER LOCALLY OR ABROAD,
WHICH MAY ACCOUNT FORMISUNDERSTANDING EVIDENT IN RAM
ARTICLE. NEVERTHELESS, IN A SECOND BRIEF SPEECH THE
NIGHT OF NOVEMBER 7, PRESIDENT SAYEM REFERRED
TO THE "STATE POLICY" HE HAD DISCUSSED THE EVENING
BEFORE AND BY THIS REFERENCE APPEARED TO RENEW ON BE-
HALF OF THE MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATION HE NOW HEADED
THE COMMITMENTS MADE IN THAT SPEECH.
CHESLAW

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